



The Association for Smart Home Professionals™

May 29, 2024

Representative Joseph J. Solomon, Jr., Chair  
Representative William W. O'Brien, First Vice Chair  
Representative Justine A. Caldwell, Second Vice Chair  
House Committee on Corporations  
State of Rhode Island General Assembly  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 82903

**Re: CEDIA's opposition to House Bill 7015**

Chair Solomon, First Vice Chair O'Brien, Second Vice Chair Caldwell, and members of the committee:

On behalf of CEDIA, the association for Smart Home Professionals, thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide written testimony opposing House Bill 7015, legislation related to the businesses and professions of electricians.

CEDIA represents smart home professionals, or residential integrators, who are technology experts and service providers for residential projects. They are designers who are adept in a wide range of disciplines including entertainment, networking, system control and integration, user interfaces, lighting, security, and audio video systems throughout the home. CEDIA member companies have bona fide qualifications and years of experience in this specialized, ever-changing, technology-driven field with a telecommunication systems license. Most CEDIA members are small, independent residential integrators with a strong entrepreneurial spirit and represent a vital part of the small business community throughout Rhode Island.

House Bill 7015 is problematic and has numerous consequences for residential integrators and the professional smart home technology industry in Rhode Island. The legislation would add confusion in the field to the work done requiring an Electrical License.

By adding to the Electrical License and Electrical Contractors license definitions such broad terms as "support systems", "lighting", and "control of electrical devices" this problematic language would force residential integrators to become electricians to complete most technology projects throughout Rhode Island that they can currently do under the Telecommunication Systems License. CEDIA members have the skillset to provide safe, secure, and integrated technology systems for the home supporting the residences of Rhode Island. House Bill 7015 would restrict who can work on these projects throughout

Rhode Island and could have a significant impact on the cost of residential projects. CEDIA members have years of professional experience and training to safely integrate and install technology systems in the home using the majority of today's technology. Residential integrators are a critical part of Rhode Island's workforce and its current and future technology needs.

For these many concerns listed above, CEDIA asks the committee to oppose House Bill 7015.

On behalf of CEDIA, thank you for the opportunity to voice our concerns with House Bill 7015 in its current form and its negative impact on the professional smart home technology industry. CEDIA looks forward to working with members of the committee, staff, and other industry stakeholders to address our numerous concerns within House Bill 7015. Thank you for your time and consideration on this critical issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darren Reaman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Darren" being more prominent than the last name "Reaman".

Darren Reaman  
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